

**In the Claims:**

Applicant hereby submits a complete listing of all claims in the application with the status of each claim in parentheses.

1. (Currently amended) A battery powered lighter comprising:

a thin flat case;

a sheet type battery provided within the flat case;

a resistance wire heating element connected to the sheet type battery; and

a power switch for opening and closing the connection between the sheet type battery and the resistance wire heating element; wherein

the flat case comprises: an ignition window, open at a position where the heating element faces; a slide member having a first position and a second position ~~for opening and closing the ignition window~~; and an operating button ~~for~~ operating operation of the power switch;

a first portion of the slide member covers the ignition window when the slide member is in the first position; and

a second portion of the slide member slides between a terminal plate and an electrode, thereby preventing the operation of the power switch when the slide member is in the first position.

~~an operation of the operating button is precluded in the state that the ignition window is closed by the slide member by a portion of the slide member being interposed between contacts~~

~~of the power switch; and~~

~~the power switch is capable of being closed and activated by an operation of the operating button in the state that the ignition window is open.~~

2. (Previously presented) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a display portion provided on a flat surface of the flat case.

3. (Original) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 1, wherein:

an operating portion of the slide member and the operating button are positioned adjacent to each other on the flat case.

4. (Original) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 1, wherein:

a fixing portion of the resistance wire heating element is structured of heat cured resin.

5. (Currently amended) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 1, wherein:

the sheet type battery is irreplaceably housed within the flat case, ~~so that the lighter is disposable.~~

6. (Original) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 1, wherein:

a portion of the flat case is openable and closable; and

the sheet type battery is replaceably housed therein.

7. (Currently amended) A battery powered lighter comprising:

a thin flat case;

a sheet type battery provided within the flat case;

a resistance wire heating element connected to the sheet type battery; and

a power switch for opening and closing the connection between the sheet type battery and

the resistance wire heating element; wherein

the flat case comprises: an ignition window, open at a position where the heating element faces; a slide member having a first position and a second position for opening and closing the ignition window; and an operating button for operating operation of the power switch;

the ignition window is closed when the slide member is in the first position; and  
movement of the operating button is restricted when the slide member is in the first  
position.

~~a portion of the slide member capable of preventing the power switch from completing~~  
5 ~~said connection between the battery and heating element when slide member is in the closed~~  
~~position over said ignition window; and~~

~~said portion of said slide member capable of moving out of interference with said~~  
~~connection when said slide member is not covering said ignition window.~~

8. (Previously presented) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 7, further  
10 comprising:

a display portion provided on a flat surface of the flat case.

9. (Previously presented) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 7, wherein:  
an operating portion of the slide member and the operating button are positioned adjacent  
to each other on the flat case.

15 10. (Previously presented) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 7, wherein:  
a fixing portion of the resistance wire heating element is structured of heat cured resin.

11. (Currently amended) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 7, wherein:  
the sheet type battery is irreplaceably housed within the flat case, ~~so that the lighter is~~  
~~disposable.~~

20 12. (Previously presented) A battery powered lighter as defined in claim 7, wherein:  
a portion of the flat case is openable and closable; and  
the sheet type battery is replaceably housed therein.